



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

Kathleen Clarke  
Executive Director

Lowell P. Braxton  
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
PO Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801  
801-538-5340  
801-359-3940 (Fax)  
801-538-7223 (TDD)

March 7, 2001

Douglas T. Pickett  
Pickett Ranch & Sheep Company  
1650 South 568 West  
Oakley, Idaho 83346

Re: Public Comments Regarding Tentative Approval Notice, Star Stone Quarries, Inc., Cotton Thomas Quarry, M/003/024, Box Elder County, Utah

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Thank you for your letter dated February 15, 2001 (received February 22, 2001) regarding your concerns over the Division's pending approval action for the Cotton Thomas Quarry permit application. As was discussed between you and Lynn Kunzler of my staff, the large mine permit area under our consideration is located entirely on Mr. Lon Thomas's property. Access to the multiple quarry areas is by existing roads within the Cotton Thomas basin.

The original Notice of Intention to Conduct Large Mining Operations had proposed construction of a road from the current quarry areas to the north, connecting to the existing Granite Pass road. Because the necessary details for permitting this road were never provided, we specifically excluded this proposed road from the permit under consideration. Mr. Thomas was told that he will need to amend his plan and receive Division approval to include this road prior to construction. The amendment will need to include road design (including typical cross sections and profile), alignment, a reclamation cost estimate to reclaim the road after mining ceases, and a demonstration that he has acquired the necessary permits, leases and right-of-ways to cross any property that he does not own.

We will notify you when the property boundary (East Granite Pit Area) will be surveyed and fenced, should you wish to be present at that time. Thank you again for your concerns and comments. Should you have additional concerns regarding this operation, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg  
Permit Supervisor  
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb

cc: Lon Thomas, Star Stone Quarries, Inc.  
Mary Ann Wright, DOGM  
Lynn Kunzler, DOGM

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